

Come share with us a Festival of Kansas
Theatre at this year's convention:
Kan Fest '98!

Kan-
Fest
'98

When:
April 3-4-5

Where:
Holiday Inn
Downtown, Topeka

Including:
Showcases of
Kansas Artists,
Friday and
Saturday evening,
workshops with
Kent Brown, James
Buglewicz, a panel
on trends in Youth
Theatre in the USA
with publisher Gail
Sergel of Dramatic
Publishing,
Playwrights Max
Bush and Ric
Averill. . .

AND MORE!

SEE INSIDE FOR
DETAILS!

The Marquee

February 1998

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KanFest '98 - is it a convention after all? In a way, yes. We're all going to gather under one roof and have the biggest theatre party in the entire state of Kansas. But with a slight difference. We hope to continue to reshape AKT into an organization that truly serves the state-wide theatre constituency.

Exciting things we'll provide—

- including Kent Brown. Many of you will remember Kent. He was an adjudicator at several Kansas AACT/FEST's and always one of the most popular. He is also a wonderful workshop presenter and teacher. Kent will do workshops on acting and directing and then another on Festival do's and don'ts from an adjudicator's standpoint. Kent asked me to relay to all of you that it would be great if you could have a short scene or monologue prepared for his workshops. So let me know if you're coming, and if so, what you might like to work on with Kent.
- and James Buglewicz, who we met at the MOKAN bi-state Thespian conference in Springfield, Missouri. He's great, he works

Be sure to see the
letter from our
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well with all age actors and will give us a chance to get in front of a camera and check out audition and performance techniques.

• vendors - - we'll have an exhibition area that can include your theatre as well as commercial vendors. To date, we already have five and are expecting more than a dozen. We'll finally have an actual "display" area.

Exciting things you'll provide —

- there's going to be a Showcase of performing artists from the AKT membership and the Kansas Touring roster. What a great chance to see what's going on and available around the state.
- we're going to meet and plan for cool things next year. We've been asked to host the regional AACT/FEST and we need a site for our own state wide. Get in on the planning and make AKT fit your needs.

Sign up now! We do have generous support from the Kansas Arts Commission for this conference, but we need you there. We'd like over 100 persons attend KanFest '98 as we pave the way for a future Arts Industry Conference. Make sure you're a part of this wonderful renaissance of AKT.

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"I believe the one thing we all have in common - regardless of our division affiliation - is a passion for theatre in Kansas."

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

Greetings! The Board of Directors met in Topeka in January and plans are underway for a great year of AKT activities. One item we discussed was membership. There always seems to be confusion about when to renew your membership in AKT. As I read newsletters from other theatre organizations, I realize AKT isn't the only group with this dilemma. People tend to wait until convention to renew their membership, but our fiscal year - and thus our membership year - is from July 1 - June 30. When too many people wait until spring to renew their membership, it puts a serious crunch on our cash flow the first half of the year. How would your theater manage if your members waited until halfway through the season to get their

tickets? If you haven't renewed your AKT membership yet, please take a minute right now to send us your check.

AKT Regional Professional Auditions are coming up soon in Kansas City. The auditions will be attended by many professional producers, directors, and casting agents in the region. In addition to actors' auditions, there will also be interviews for technical positions. I'm sure SCT isn't the only theatre looking for designers and TD's, so I hope we have a good turn out. There is a big demand for technical staff and this will be a good way for technicians to find both summer and permanent employment.

After auditions, the next big event is convention. This year, AKT will be a little later, April 3-5 at the downtown Topeka Holiday Inn. In addition to showcases from AKT theaters and Kansas Touring Program artists, we're planning some interesting workshops in a variety of areas, like acting, directing, and marketing. Don't miss convention '98. It's the one time in the year when we can get together from all across the state to swap stories, pick each other's brains and share triumphs and heartbreaks.

Negotiations are underway for a mini-conference for the Historic Theatre Division later this year, hopefully in western Kansas. We're working to include the League of Historic American Theatres and to have the conference at one of the theatres currently being restored.

KANSAS is the site for the '99 Regional AACT-Fest! Plans are being made for the state festival early in 1999. It's not too early to begin thinking about your entry for AACT-Fest '99. We want to have a good turn-out for the state festival and strut our stuff at regionals!

It is taking me a little while to get myself acclimated to my new office as AKT president, but I think I'm getting up to speed. I believe the one thing we all have in common - regardless of our division affiliation - is a passion for theatre in

Kansas. I'd really like to hear from you, the people of AKT, to hear your ideas and concerns. I need your input to make AKT the organization all Kansas theatres want to join. Please let me hear from you, by phone or fax, e-mail or snail mail. I can be reached via AKT, or at my home base, Salina Community Theatre, or even my "other" home in Assaria (the number there is 785-667-4685.) Give me a call or drop me a line.

I look forward to seeing you at convention in April.

—Deb Wall
AKT President

WANTED!

SALINA COMMUNITY THEATRE is looking for a Set designer and a Technical Director for the 1998 production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Candidates will be in residence during the 30 days prior to production and through strike. Individuals must have proven design and TD ability and must be responsive to some volunteer labor. Salary is \$2500.00 plus some living expenses. Send resumes to:

Michael Spicer, Managing Artistic Director
Salina Community Theatre

Box 2305
Salina, KS 67402

MOKAN BI-STATE

THESPIAN CONFERENCE

UPDATE:

While in Springfield, MO, AKT sponsored a booth, 4 workshops in playwriting and improvisation by Executive Director, Ric Averill and 5 workshops in playwriting and improvisation by guest artist, Max Bush. The Workshops were full, with anywhere from 20-40 students per session. At the general meeting Friday night, Kansas State Director, Max Friddell stood up and gave a special thanks to AKT for sponsoring Max Bush and Ric Averill at the conference.

Bush did excerpts from his play, *Sarah*, which had recently been performed at Lawrence High School. Bush also did improvisation sessions designed to help actors "play." Averill also did a workshop on "conflict-based improvisation".

The conference featured over 1,400 high school students and their teachers and gave AKT a wonderful visibility across both states. Thanks again to the Kansas Arts Commission for supporting the guest artist fees for Max Bush.

There will be something for everyone - Awards, a Sunday Banquet, Networking, and just plain fun!

WORKSHOPS

KENT.BROWN

Acting . . .

Directing...

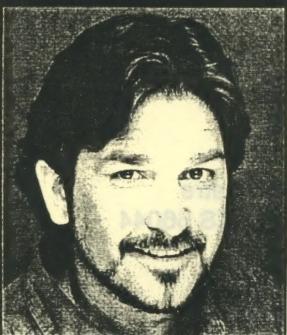
Adjudicating . . .

JAMES BUGLEWICZ

Acting for the Camera...

Physical and Vocal Warm-up . . .

Sign Up Now!!



KANFEST '98 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS . . .

FRIDAY, APRIL 3:

8:00 a.m. - Registration begins
11:00 a.m. - AKT Board meets
1:00 a.m. - Workshops begin
5:00 p.m. - Dinner on your own
7:00 p.m. - Showcases

SATURDAY, APRIL 4:

- 9:00 a.m. - More Workshops
- 11:00 a.m. - Divisional Meetings
- 1:30 p.m. - Workshops
- 5:00 p.m. - Dinner on your own
- 7:00 p.m. - Showcases
- 11:00 p.m. - Afterglow, party!

SUNDAY, APRIL 5:

- 9:00 a.m. - Open meeting of the Board to discuss '98-'99 and what we wish to see happen.
- Nominations of new board members.
- 11:00 a.m. - Brunch and Awards Ceremony (GET YOUR NOMINATIONS IN!)

REGISTER BY MARCH 15, 1998

LET US INTRODUCE YOU TO KENT BROWN . . .

Kent R. Brown is a director, adjudicator and playwright who lives in Fairfield, CT. As a drama professor for twenty-three years at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, he directed nearly seventy productions including *Other People's Money*, *Breaking the Code*, *The School for Scandal*, *Broadway Bound*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Agnes of God* and *Fiddler on the Roof*, and taught classes in directing, acting and playwriting. He has given workshops all over the country and has been a frequent artist-in-residence. As an adjudicator, Kent has judged work in Oklahoma, Kansas, Massachusetts and Alaska. In 1995 he served as an adjudicator at the AACT/Fest National festival in Mid-

AND JAMES BUGLEWICZ

James Buglewicz has been a professional director for the past ten years. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from New York University's Experimental Theatre Wing and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Arizona in directing. He currently is an assistant professor of Theatre and Video at Missouri Western State College in Saint Joseph, MO. In Nashville, TN he taught 'Acting for Directors' at Watkins Film School and was an instructor for Columbia State Community College in Musical Theatre and

lands, TX. His award-winning playscripts, including *Valentines and Killer Chili*, *Dancing the Box Step*, *Larry's Favorite Chocolate Cake*, *The Phoenix Dimension*, *Welcome to Four Way: The Town that Time Forgot* and *The View from Sunset Towers*, have been produced throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia. In 1995 he served on the faculty of the Sewanee Writer's Conference, and this summer he will be teaching classes in playwriting at Manhattanville College and at the Writers Center at Chautauqua. Kent is currently co-editing a collection of monologues and scenes for older actors, and completing a new play entitled *The Seduction of Chaos*.

Acting, as well as, working as a private coach and director. Previously he has directed for Artise Theatre in San Francisco, CA and was the resident director for Tucson Parks & Recreation Community Theatre and Dharma Productions. His directing credits include, *Waiting for Godot*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Fool for Love*, *Lie of the Mind*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, and several premiere productions of original scripts. His production of *Too Much I Say*, was showcased at the Edmonton Fringe Festival, Edmonton, Canada in 1995.

Association of Kansas Theatre
P.O. Box 1873
Lawrence, KS 66044-1873

The Marquee

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Jed Davis
2602 Louisiana
Lawrence, KS 66046-4662

SIGN UP NOW AND JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING
WEEKEND OF LEARNING AND NETWORKING!

LAST CALL FOR AWARDS!

- * Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame
- * Steven B. Cathy Award
- * Outstanding Achievement Award
- * Secondary Administrator Award
- * Theatre Teacher Award

Please mail nomination with
letter to:
AKT Award Nominations
P.O. Box 1873
Lawrence, KS 66044
Questions? (800) 343-2779

KAN FEST '98 CONVENTION REGISTRATION

NAME:

\$65.00

ORGANIZATION:

\$75.00

ADDRESS:

\$10.00

Yes! I will be attending convention.

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

AKT Members

Non-Members

Student (daily)

AKT Members

Non-Members

Students

Total Enclosed

\$

HOME PHONE: ()

WORK PHONE: ()

Make checks payable to:

Association of Kansas Theatre
P.O. Box 1873 * Lawrence, KS 66044

Please complete the information to the right

for every person attending from your
organization.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

MARCH 15, 1998